

Application no. 09/963,719
Response dated: November 22, 2004
Reply to office action dated: October 22, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 12-43 and 47-67 are subject to restriction requirement. According to the Examiner, the following inventions have been identified in the pending claims:

Group I, including claims 1-10, 12-39, 53-57 and 63-67, drawn to method and apparatus for routing calls in an Advanced Intelligent Network (AIN), from class 379, subclasses 220.01 and 221.08.

Group II, including claims 40-43, drawn to interexchange signaling using GR1129 protocol messages, from class 379, subclass 229.

Group III, including claims 47-49, drawn to TCP/IP packet data transmission, classified in class 370, subclass 352.

Group IV, including claims 50-52, drawn to a service profile (e.g., a calling service) and creation or updating of service, from class 379, subclasses 201.02 and 201.03.

Group V, including claims 58-61, drawn to offering a caller additional call routing options with a fee when a call is not answered, from class 379, subclass 201.12.

Group VI, including claim 62, drawn to special services provided to the caller, such as simultaneous or sequential ringing, from class 379, subclass 201.01.

According to the Requirement for Restriction, the inventions of Groups I through VI are unrelated as each has separate utility.

Election

Applicants elect for prosecution in the present application the invention of Group III, claims 47-49. By this paper, claims 1-10, 12-43 and 48-67 have been cancelled without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to these non-elected inventions.

New claims 68-74 have been added to more fully claim the subject matter of the elected invention. No new matter is added by these amendments. Support for these amendments may be found in the application as filed at, for example, page 22, line 15 through page 26, line 3 and FIG. 10.

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Other Claim Amendments

Claim 49 has been amended slightly to correct an informality noted during review of the claims. No new matter is added by this amendment and this amendment is submitted only to improve the readability of the claims, not for any reason related to patentability.

With this response, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Should the examiner deem a telephone conference to be of assistance in advancing the application to allowance, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



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